

The “Concise” Telescope Operating Procedure

1. Carefully move enclosure from telescope
2. Connect telescope power cord
3. Set up laptop
 - a. Connect power
 - b. Connect Ethernet
 - c. Connect parallel and serial cables from telescope
 - d. Power on laptop
 - e. Logon as astro
4. Verify/Correct the following on Telescope Hand controller (see telescope manual for detailed instructions):
 - a. Date
 - b. Local Time
 - c. Sidereal Time
 - d. Site Latitude and Longitude
 - e. Finder Scope alignment
5. Perform equatorial mount one-star alignment.
6. Focus telescope
 - a. For visual eyepiece operation use a star and adjust stellar image until it appears the most point-like.
 - b. For SBIG CCD operation use the diffraction fringe technique.
 - i. Carefully place a strip of masking tape across the aperture of the telescope. Be sure not to touch the optics.
 - ii. Use the SBIG CCDops software to control the camera.
 - iii. Using a bright star such as Sirius. Image the star using the CCD camera and align the two diffraction fringes such that they overlap.
 - c. For MEADE DSI CCD operation.
 - i. Use the MEADE Autostar software to control the camera.
 - ii. Image a star. Minimize the distance between the triangles in the “Magic Eye” focus box.
7. Start observing.
8. To find deep sky objects, it may be necessary to synchronize the telescope to a nearby known visible star.